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Urban District of Whittlesey

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1960.

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OFFICERS OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health :

D.C. Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

D.A. Bamford, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.


OFFICES OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
6, Delph Street,  
Whittlesey.

Telephone No.                      Whittlesey 2312-3

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	23, 362
Number of Inhabitated Houses	2, 979
Rateable Value (at 31.12.60.)	£111, 226
Product of ld. rate (at 31.3.60.)	£436. 16s. 7d.
Population (Registrar General's figures).	9, 050



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TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I wish to present my Annual Report on  
the health of the population of Whittlesey for the  
year 1960.

I take this opportunity of placing on  
record my profound appreciation of the splendid  
way in which Mr. Bamford and Mrs Tyers have carried  
out their duties in the Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D.C. LOGAN.

Medical Officer of Health.



VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	79	80	159
Illegitimate	9	1	10
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Total :	88	81	169
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population

Whittlesey Urban District	-	18.67
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	18.67
England and Wales	-	17.1

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 5.91

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Total :	3	3	6
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	34.28
England and Wales	-	19.7

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	82	82	164
Illegitimate	9	2	11
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Total :	91	84	175
	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>





INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Total:	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births

Whittlesey Urban District	-	41.42
England and Wales	-	21.7

The high infant mortality rate this year comes as a disappointment. Two deaths occurred from prematurity; in one the pregnancy lasted 30 weeks and in the other only 27 weeks. Two deaths were the result of congenital abnormalities incompatible with long survival. There was one death from cerebral haemorrhage. One child of 5 weeks died from fulminating broncho pneumonia. One child born in Thorpe Hall died from Staphylococcal Meningitis at 3 weeks. This was one of a number of deaths which occurred among children born in Thorpe Hall early in the year.

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births 37.73

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births 100.0

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE ( deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) 23.6

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) 11.8

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) 45.71

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	311

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0.0
England and Wales	-	0.39



DEATHS ( ALL CAUSES )

<u>Male</u>	63	<u>Female</u>	40	<u>Total</u>	103
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Death Rate -

Whittlesey Urban District	- per 1,000 estimated population	11.38
Adjusted Death Rate	- per 1,000 estimated population	12.5
England and Wales	- per 1,000 estimated population	11.5

Causes of Deaths in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied  
by the Registrar General for 1960 :-

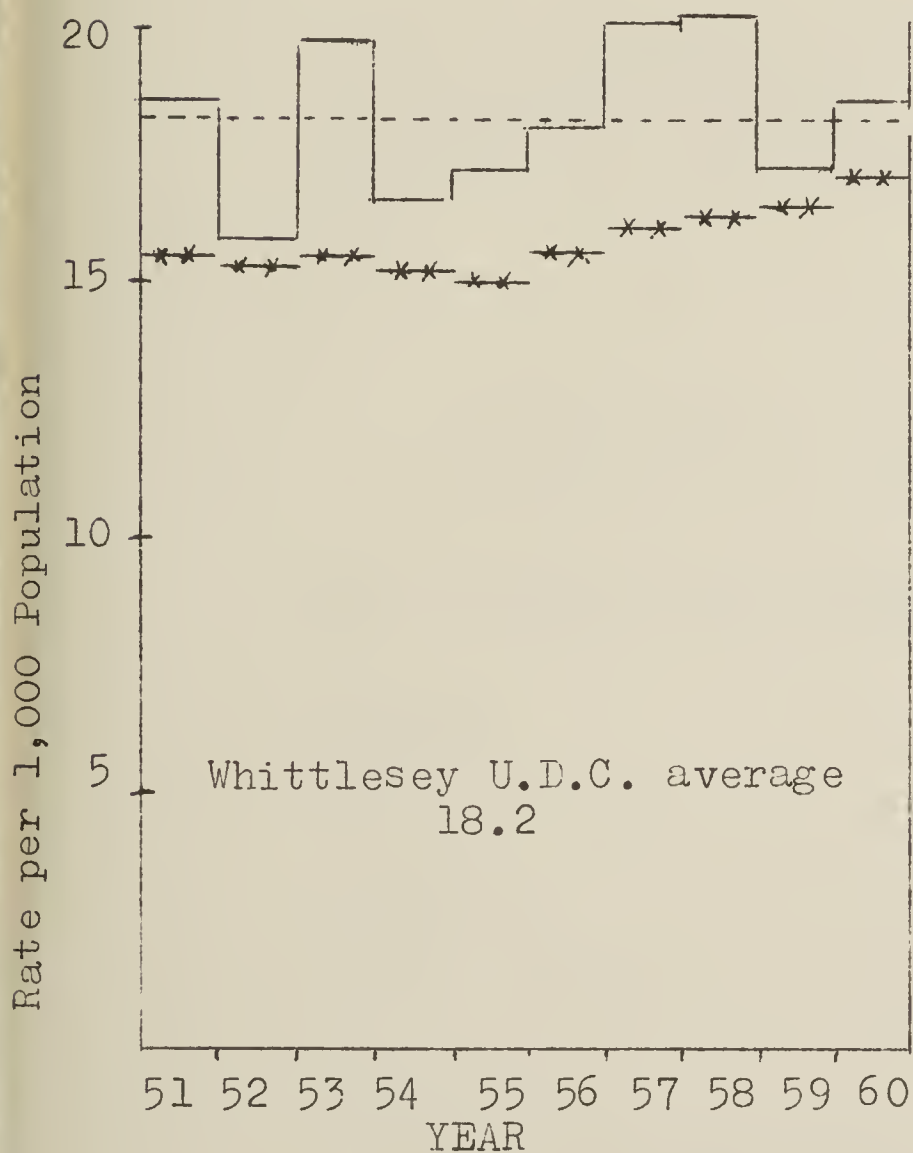
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	1
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
Diabetes	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	8
Coronary disease, angina	11	5
Hypertension with heart disease	2	-
Other heart disease	6	8
Other circulatory disease	6	2
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	8	9
Bronchitis	2	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	1
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	-	-
Suicide	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total :	63	40
	<hr/>	<hr/>



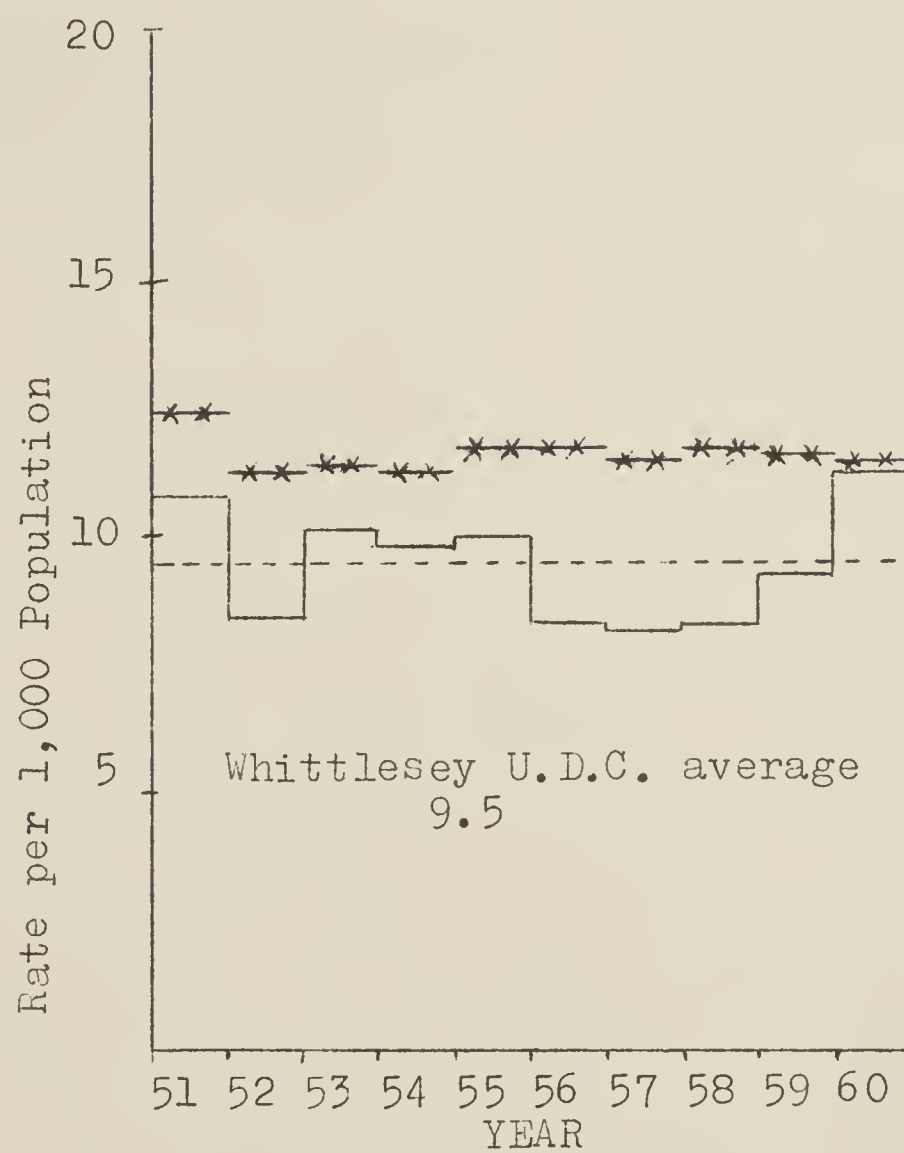
# REVIEW OF THE PAST TEN YEARS

The accompanying chart gives figures for the past ten years to show the birth rate, death rate, stillbirth rate and infant mortality rate. The two latter show the wide variation which has occurred in the town from year to year but the averages for the ten year period in Whittlesey are lower than those for England and Wales.

## BIRTH RATE



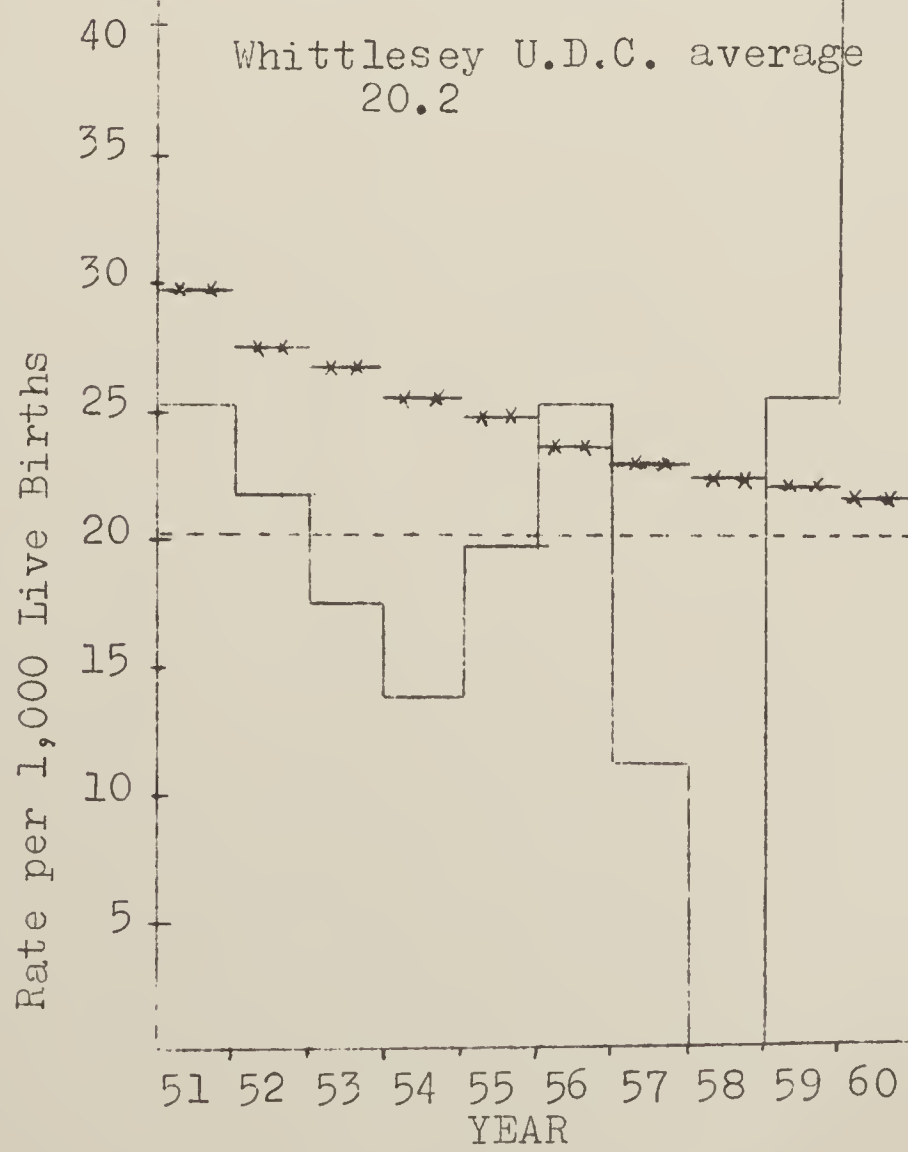
## DEATH RATE



## STILLBIRTH RATE



## INFANT MORTALITY RATE







## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There is nothing outstanding to report in this section.

Supplies of poliomyelitis vaccine became reasonably adequate as the year progressed and it was possible to follow a steady programme of immunisation among the population entitled to be done.

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during 1960 :-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Whooping Cough	1	7	8
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Scarlet Fever	2	-	2
Erysipelas	2	-	2
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	-	1	1
Tuberculosis (Non.Pulmonary)	-	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	-	1
Infective Jaundice	1	-	1
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Total:	9	10	19
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>





TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my fifth  
Annual Report on the work carried out in the year 1960.

This year was marked by two important steps,  
one was the new conditions for caravan sites and the  
other was the drawing up of the Slaughterhouses Report.  
Both will lead to improvements in the public health  
field.

The state of some of the caravan sites in the  
area has given concern for many years and improvements  
can now be made.

Whilst an improved standard for slaughterhouses  
is welcomed, it is hoped that it will not lead to the end  
of local killing. In an area such as Whittlesey there  
are butchers who purchase prime beasts in local markets  
and take pride in dressing carcasses with skill and  
attention. This is not always attained in abattoirs  
where the slaughtermen may be more concerned with  
throughput.

I should like to thank the Public Health Committee,  
and the Medical Officer of Health for their support and  
to acknowledge the help received from the Clerk of the  
Council and the Surveyor. I should also like to record my  
appreciation of the way Mrs. Tyers has carried out her  
duties which has greatly helped the smooth running of the  
department.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. BAMFORD.

Public Health Inspector



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

Frequent orthotolodine tests were carried out on the water supply and in all cases a satisfactory amount of free chlorine was found to be present.

The Town's water is purchased from Peterborough Corporation.

Total consumption	111, 493, 000 gallons
Average daily consumption	305, 460 gallons

There are still several houses in the town area which do not have an internal piped supply of water, but are supplied from standpipes in the yard.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Where possible most of the better type of houses have been connected to the sewer. There are still some houses with pail closets and a few with vaults. The latter are mainly serving dwellings which are condemned or likely to be condemned.

In the areas which are not sewered many owners have taken advantage of Improvement Grants and have installed septic tanks for the disposal of waste water. The performance of these septic tanks varies a lot, some give no trouble, but others need emptying frequently. The water table is high in parts of the area and it is in these parts that the tanks are often unsatisfactory.

By far the worst trouble has occurred at houses on the north side of Snoots Road, which is in the town area. Many of the tanks overflow and the gardens in the vicinity of the tanks are waterlogged. Numerous remedies have been tried without success and the only satisfactory method of disposing of the sewage will be the provision of a sewer. This may not eradicate the waterlogging, but it would at least take away the sewage.

### NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION

The Council, by annual Contract, undertake the emptying of pails, vaults and cesspools where no sewer is available.

In 1960 there were 220 pails which were emptied 3 times in every 14 days. Cesspools and vaults are emptied free on request once in any period of 6 months, extra emptyings have to be paid for by the owner or occupier.

The main difficulty experienced with this service has been to have cesspool or vaults emptied in a reasonable time from receipt of an order. The terms of the Contract allow the Contractor 10 clear days from receipt of order to completion of the work. This 10 day period was exceeded in some instances and gave serious inconvenience to the tenants. The Contractor's attention was drawn to these overdue emptyings. Some were unavoidable as the Contractor has only two vehicles and two drivers and in times of illness the work cannot be kept up.





## REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council collect refuse with two vehicles and a labour force of two drivers and four loaders, one of the drivers being the foreman. It is gratifying to report that few complaints are received. This is undoubtedly due to the good service given by the foreman and the workmen and the pleasant manner in which they carry out their work. No time was lost by absenteeism. The five day week was again in operation during the summer months and was quite successful.

It is most difficult finding temporary workmen in the holiday period and finding a relief driver is even more difficult. Regular collections were maintained as far as possible, but as the rounds are increasing both lorries are working more to capacity and there is not sufficient time in hand to keep up during holiday periods and absence of workmen through illness.

The Shelvoke & Drewry 16/18 cubic yard vehicle manned by a driver and three loaders collects household refuse in the town area and trade refuse. The collection is a weekly one.

The Dennis 10 cubic yard vehicle manned by a driver and one loader collects household refuse from the outside areas. Built up areas have a weekly collection and the remainder have a three weekly one.

Altogether 147,217 refuse bin collections were made in the year, together with trade refuse collected weekly from 31 premises, this resulted in 1,777 journeys to the refuse tip.

The vehicles are washed and serviced by the drivers. The Shelvoke & Drewry vehicle was re-painted and Peterborough Corporation were most helpful in arranging for the hire of one of their vehicles during the period the Shelvoke & Drewry was off the road.

	SHELVOKE & DREWRY	DENNIS	TOTAL
Number of bins collected weekly	2,085	592	2,677
Number of bins collected three weekly	-	379	379
Average weekly mileage	60	110	170
Annual mileage	2,931	5,249	8,180
Annual fuel consumption (gallons)	430 (diesel)	795 (petrol)	-
Miles per gallon	6.8	6.6	-
Journeys to tip	692	485	1,777



## REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in a disused gravel pit in New Road. During working hours the tip is open for the disposal of rubbish by inhabitants of the district. Local farmers use the tip to dispose of potatoes, normally the small amount brought creates no problem. In September, however, so many tons of potatoes had been dumped that to have accepted more would have meant using valuable tipping space so the Council had to stop this practice.

Minor infestations of rats occurred and were treated with poison bait as necessary, good control was achieved.

## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

At the beginning of the year there were twenty-five single sites and four multiple sites.

In August the long awaited Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 came into force. Approval for sites was transferred from the Council to the Local Planning Authority. Once planning permission is granted the Council has to issue a licence and may attach conditions for control of the site. The Minister of Housing & Local Government issued Model Standards for the guidance of local authorities.

After many years of trying to attain decent conditions on caravan sites with very outdated byelaws the new Act is most welcome.

As a first step the Council considered Standard Conditions for a single caravan site. To try to obtain uniform conditions throughout the area the Council sponsored a joint meeting of local authorities in the County. The response was good and of the nine authorities invited seven attended. A list of standard conditions was discussed and the conditions agreed upon were recommended for adoption to the authorities represented.

When planning permission is renewed or new single sites are approved the conditions form part of the licence.

It must be noted that the single sites were in the main satisfactory and except for the provision of fire fighting facilities they complied with the new standards.

The multiple sites, however, with one exception are far from the standards recommended by the Minister. The one exception required few works to comply with these standards. The three unsatisfactory multiple sites are under review by the Planning Authority.

The Council considered the setting up of a Council Site, but decided not to take any action at present.





## INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made in 1960 :-

	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal Notice</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>
Cesspool, pail and vault work	45	6	-
Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	31	3	-
Slaughterhouses and Butcher's Shops	374	3	-
Food Shops	37	4	-
Restaurants	13	-	-
Verminous and Filthy Premises	3	1	-
Housing	162	12	-
Nuisances	21	6	-
Rats and Mice	58	-	-
Caravan Sites	55	7	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	49	-	-

Of the 47 informal notices served 38 were complied with.

## DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

No infestation of bed bugs was reported or found.

One infestation of fleas was found and the premises treated.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There were two registered common lodging houses, both of which were well maintained. One was changed into a boarding house and is no longer subject to licensing under the Public Health Act.



## HOUSING

Number of houses erected during 1960 :-

By Local Authority	28 Houses and Bungalows
By Private Enterprise	26 Houses and Bungalows

30 applications were received for Improvement Grants, 29 of which were approved and received grants.

Notices of Time and Place to consider 7 dwellings were served in the year, the results of the representations were :-

Demolition Orders	4
Closing Orders	3
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	4

32 dwellings were demolished and 34 families were re-housed from condemned properties.

At the 1st January, 1960 33 dwellings were occupied which were subject to Clearance or Demolition Orders in 1938. 27 were vacated during the year and none were re-let.

The number of families re-housed from condemned dwellings was greater than in previous years and enabled a start to be made in clearing unfit houses. Of the 34 families re-housed 6 were allocated to re-lets. By using re-lets for this purpose it unfortunately reduced the number of houses available for overcrowded cases on the general need list.

New dwellings for slum clearance were completed as follows :-

12 houses in Eastfield Drive
14 bungalows in Horsegate Lane
2 Bungalows in South Green, Coates.

The demand for bungalows is continually increasing in the town area. In view of the shortage of land suitable for building and the large proportion of single persons requiring bungalows, consideration of accommodation for single persons is becoming increasingly necessary.

The construction of two bungalows at Coates is the start of re-development of the village and it will soon be possible to deal with the unfit houses there.

## RENT ACT, 1957

A sub-committee of six members dealt with applications and this cut down delays in issuing the necessary forms and certificates.

One application for a certificate of disrepair was received, this was considered to be substantiated and notice of intention to issue a certificate was served on the landlord for some defects.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948Inspections made (under the Factories Act) for 1959

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	15	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	39	34	-	-
Other premises	6	6	-	-
TOTAL:	65	55	-	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Number of Cases in which Defcets were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
		Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Closet Unsuitable or Defective	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORK SECTIONS 110 & 111

There are no outworkers in the district.





## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### MILK SUPPLY

Four Dealer's Licences and one Supplementary Licence were issued authorising the use of the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" and four Licences and one Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised".

Sixteen Licences were issued authorising the use of the special designation "Sterilised".

The responsibility for the issue of these licences has now been transferred to the County Council.

### ICE-CREAM

There are 37 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream; all the ice-cream being pre-packed. The only loose ice-cream sold in the area is sold from vehicles.

There is no ice-cream manufactured in the area.

### CONDEMNED FOOD

8 certificates were issued covering 21 items of foodstuffs which were voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers.

It was not found necessary to seize any diseased or unsound food.

Condemned food is disposed of by burying in the Council's Refuse Tip.

Some meat from the Knacker's Yard is taken by a trader in cat and dog meat and sold in the district from a van. Prior to 1st November, 1960 this meat was sold untreated, since that date, when the Meat (Staining & Sterilization) Regulations, came into force the meat has been stained.





## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are six licensed slaughterhouses one of which is used only occasionally for the slaughter of pigs. These slaughterhouses are conducted in a satisfactory manner.

The six licensed slaughterhouses were inspected and the owners were informed of the works required to bring the slaughterhouses up to the standard required by the Slaughterhouses(Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.

After consultation with the traders, local organisations and neighbouring local authorities the Slaughterhouse Report was drawn up and submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The report was accepted in December, 1960 and as a result from the 1st January, 1962 all the existing slaughterhouses will cease to be used.

The occupier of one slaughterhouse proposes to build a new one and another occupier proposes to modernise his existing slaughterhouse.

The Council considered estimated costs of providing a public slaughterhouse, but in view of the low number of animals killed locally they decided that it would not be economic.

## KNACKER'S YARD

There is one licensed knacker's yard which is satisfactory.

No live animals are brought on to the premises.

## FOOD PREPARATION

The preparation of food in good premises together with hygienic handling and display is becoming increasingly recognised as good business as well as good hygiene.

Premises registered for the making up of food	11
Fish Friers	4
Bakehouses	3
Cafes	3
Other food shops	40
Public Houses	34



## MEAT INSPECTION

Ante-mortem inspection is made whenever possible. All carcasses are inspected except during the period when annual leave is taken outside the district. On these occasions there is a reciprocal arrangement with the Public Health Inspector of the Thorney Rural District Council to inspect if the butcher finds any disease or suspected unfitness.

### Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	109	-	-	1159	1229	-
Number inspected	105	-	-	1109	1199	-

### All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	2	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	5	13	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	4.76	-	-	0.64	1.17	-

### Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	7	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.54	-

### Cysticercosis

Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-



## MEAT CONDEMNED

### Bovines

1 head and tongue with actinomycosis	24 lbs.
1 set of lungs with actinomycosis	4 lbs.
2 livers with distomatosis	8 lbs.
1 liver with abscesses	15 lbs.

### Pigs

7 heads and tongues affected with tuberculosis	82 lbs.
3 hearts and lungs with inflammation	11 lbs.
2 livers with cirrhosis	9 lbs.
6 livers with hepatitis	21 lbs.
1 head with bruising	21 lbs.
1 part belly pork with bruising	3 lbs.

### Sheep

2 whole sheep and offal with dropsy	98 lbs.
5 livers with distomatosis	10 lbs.







